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2 September 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

C U R R E N T I N T E L L I G E N C E

R E L A T I N G T O N A T I O N A L S E C U R I T Y

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

1. South Vietnam: Political situation still fluid.
(Page 1)

25X1

3. Cyprus: The island is quiet but continuation of
the Greek Cypriots' economic blockade could
lead to new fighting. (Page 4)

25X1

5. Haiti: Antigovernment plotting appears to be
increasing. (Page 6)

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

2 September 1964

DAILY BRIEF

*South Vietnam: General Khanh is still equivocating about when he will return to Saigon.

[He told a US official that he planned to return to Saigon, probably on 2 September, but felt he should not go until he was able to move against his enemies in the Dai Viet Party.] Yesterday he told reporters in Dalat that his return to Saigon depended "on many factors," and that it might be a matter of weeks.

Dai Viet Party leader Nguyen Ton Hoan, Vice Premier for Pacification, reportedly has tendered his resignation. Hoan, a principal antagonist in the cabinet, said he was unable to work with Khanh.

Meanwhile, Buddhist and student leaders respectively have promised a two-month moratorium on demonstrations to permit the government to enact pledged reforms. These groups are likely to react forcefully, however, if in the meantime elements inimical to their interests seem to be gaining power.

In the northern provinces, there are already signs of potential trouble. In Da Nang, a student "struggle group," apparently acting with local army concurrence, has arrested four persons, including two army officers accused of persecuting Buddhists. Other groups in Hue, with ties among Buddhists and students, continue to call for an all-civilian government in Saigon.

There are tenuous signs that the Viet Cong may be stepping up military pressure in the countryside. Unconfirmed reports indicate that three company-size or larger attacks occurred in the past few days.

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Cyprus: The island is quiet, but continuation of the Greek Cypriots' economic blockade could lead to new fighting.

A new UN report tends to substantiate other observations that the food situation is the most pressing immediate threat. According to the report, the Turkish Cypriots' food supply has dwindled to the point where further shrinkage could cause an "explosion." Shortages of fuel oil, clothing, and medical supplies are also acute and growing worse.

*It appears unlikely that the situation has been significantly changed despite Greek Cypriot permission late yesterday for some food and fuel to enter the Turkish quarter of Nicosia.

The Greek Government has again sent Minister of Defense Garoufalias to Nicosia, probably to persuade Makarios to modify his stand against the rotation of part of the Turkish Army contingent on the island. Garoufalias presumably also hopes to learn the results of the recent Makarios-Nasir talks.

UN Secretary General Thant believes that the UN force should be kept on Cyprus for an additional three months after expiration of its current mandate on 26 September. A Cypriot spokesman in New York recently suggested that an observer group--presumably much smaller than the current 6,200-man UN force--might be "more satisfactory."

In Cyprus, violence may break out between General Grivas' followers and the Communists. On 30 August, Grivas publicly denounced elements who have denigrated aid from Greece while praising that received from other countries--an obvious reference to local Communists and other left-wing groups. The clandestine radio of the Greek Communist Party has replied with a bitter denunciation of Grivas, who it implies is working to "impose NATO bondage on Cyprus."

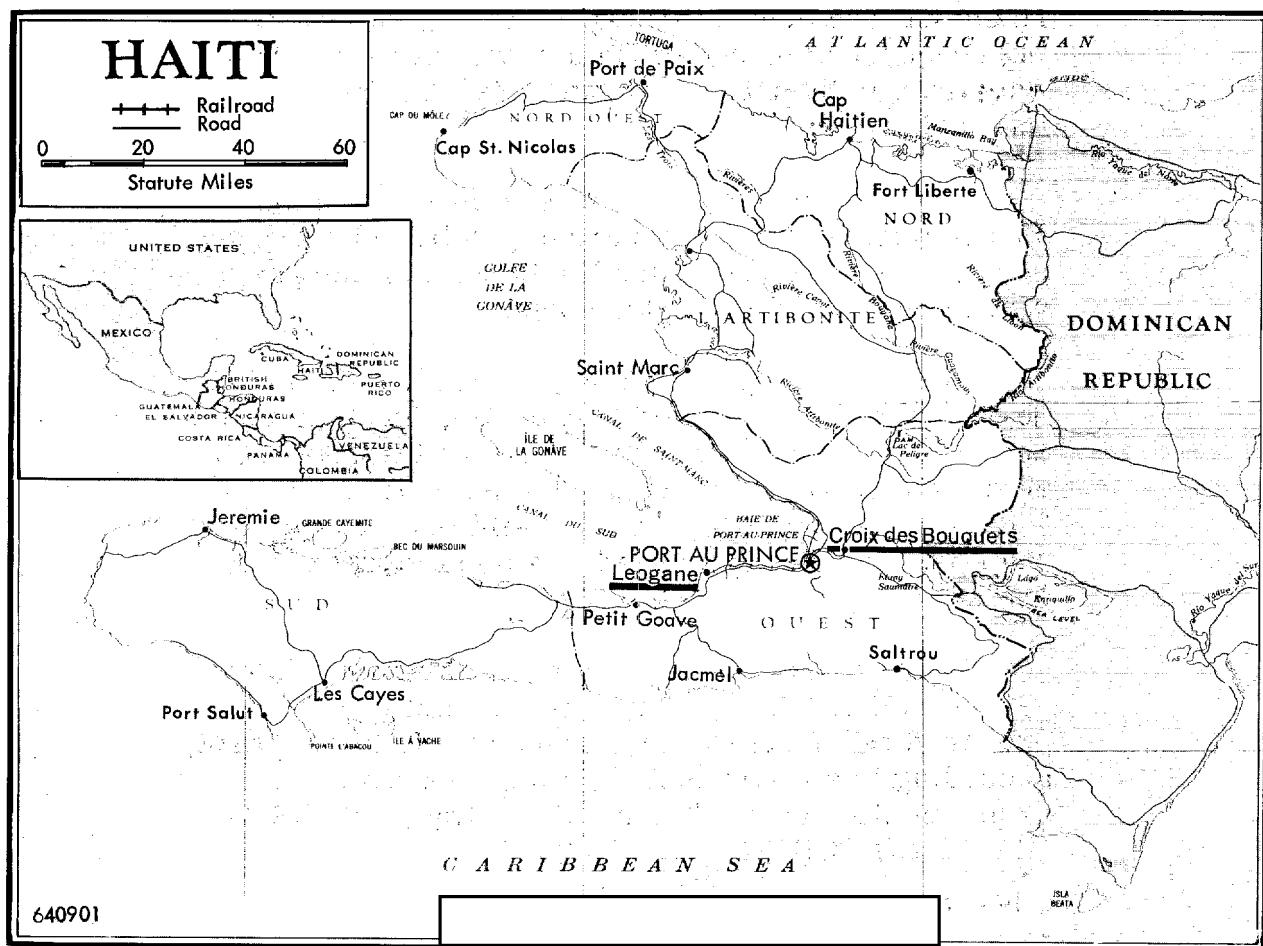
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Haiti: Antigovernment plotting appears to be increasing.

25X1

Duvalier is apparently preparing to defend Port-au-Prince. A build-up of government troops is reported in the area between Croix des Bouquetes and the Dominican border.

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25X1

[redacted] troops have also been moved to the eastern town of Leogane. Although these new troop dispositions will augment the capital's defenses, the military position of the government in other areas may have been somewhat weakened in the process.

Antigovernment plotting has not presented a serious danger to the regime in the past, but it could become increasingly serious for Duvalier if the rebels continue to score minor successes. In that event, Duvalier could be expected to take drastic repressive measures against the plotters.

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